

# Tolai

Multivaluation @ Frankfurt

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## 1 Language Information

- Source: Mosel (1984)
- Glottlog: <http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/kuan1248>
- ISO-identifier: ksd
- Speakers:
- Location: Papua New Guinea
- Geneology: Austronesian > Malayo-Polynesian > Central-Eastern Malayo-Polynesian > Eastern Malayo-Polynesian > Oceanic > Western Oceanic linkage > Meso Melanesian linkage > New Ireland-Northwest Solomonian linkage > St George linkage > Patpatar-Minigir-Tolai > Minigi-Tolai > Kuanua

## 2 Nominal Morphology

Plurality can be expressed by reduplication, plural markers, quantifiers, quantifying noun, or numerals.

## 3 Verbal Morphology

There is a subject marker that agrees with the subject in number. This marker is usually a form of the independent pronoun which can have four numbers - singular, dual, trial, and plural.

## 4 Conjunction

The preposition *ma* 'with' can be used to conjoin NPs, VPs, and clauses.

- (1) a    tutana i    ian ma i    momo  
     ART man    he eat and he drink  
     'The man ate and drank.' [Mosel, 1984, p. 94]

- (2) Dir tikan ma dir tikan pa ra ik a  
 they.DU search and they.DU search EFFECTIVE ART little CONNECTIVE  
 tautau.  
 firewood  
 'They searched and found some firewood.' [Mosel, 1984, p. 132]
- (3) Ma to ia na vila pa dir?  
 and ART who he.FUT run EFFECTIVE them.DU  
 'Who will go and bring them here?' [Mosel, 1984, p. 132]
- (4) I ga punang kapi ia ma i ga vana.  
 he REMOTENESS bury EFFECTIVE him and he REMOTENESS go  
 'He buried him and went off.' [Mosel, 1984, p. 133]
- (5) A paupau tarai dia burut ma vilau.  
 ART few men they.PL be.afraid and run.away  
 'A few men were afraid and ran away.' [Mosel, 1984, p. 133]
- (6) ... ma dir rapu ia ma rana ram  
 and they.DU hit it with its club  
 '... and they hit the pig with the club (that was meant for it).' [Mosel, 1984, p. 175]
- (7) Ma una tumu ra mata=na ma ta kabang.  
 and you.SG+TA paint ART eye=his with some lime  
 'And paint his eyes with lime.' [Mosel, 1984, p. 175]
- (8) Ma ra tabaran i ga pot ma ra davai.  
 and ART spirit he TA come with ART tree  
 'And the spirit came along with the wood.' [Mosel, 1984, p. 176]
- (9) ..., ma di ki ma ra mulmulum.  
 and INDEF stay with ART hunger  
 '..., and they suffered from hunger.' [Mosel, 1984, p. 176]
- (10) Telengai dir rovoi ma ra pap.  
 Telengai they.DU hunt with ART dog  
 'Telengai and the dog hunted.' [Mosel, 1984, p. 176]
- (11) Ma dir irop-mulai ma kadir rarat maravut mulai.  
 and they.DU get.out-again with their.DU basket.PL.DISTR with again  
 'And they got out and each of them took his basket along with him.' [Mosel, 1984, p. 177]
- (12) Ma i lulul ra ura tai=na upi rana ta ik a pa.  
 and he ask ART two sisters=his for his some little CONNECTIVE taro  
 'And he asked his two sisters for some taro.' [Mosel, 1984, p. 177]

- (13) Ma i oraoro upi nam ra vavina.  
and she call.REDUPL for DEM ART woman  
'And she called for that woman.' [Mosel, 1984, p. 177]
- (14) Ma go ra gun i ga pua vakuku ta ra maup.  
and DEM ART gun it TA explode purposelessly in ART air  
'And the gun only fired into the air.' [Mosel, 1984, p. 177]

## 5 Disjunction

No information given.

## 6 Prepositions

Here is a list with some of the prepositions in Tolai:

1. *ma* comitative/instrumental
2. *(u)pi* purposive
3. *ta* 'in, on, from, under, on top of, behind, near, in front of, in, into' ("all-purpose-preposition")
4. *kan* 'from'
5. *papa* 'from'
6. *pirai/pire* 'near, close to'
7. *tatar* 'towards, to'
8. *taun* 'upon'
9. *tuk* 'till, up to'

## References

Mosel, Ulrike (1984). *Tolai Syntax and its Historical Development*. Canberra: Australian National University.